

Memo to file

December 30, 2003

From: Peter E. Kurtze
Administrator, Evaluation and Registration

Re: M: 23-104
Berry/Mackall House

The property documented in the following Addendum Sheet has not been formally evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The comments in the text are those of the preparer of the documentation. The State Historic Preservation Officer has neither concurred nor disagreed with those comments.

Property Address <u>17017 Georgia Avenue, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County</u>
Owner Name/Address <u>Mary F. Morris / 17017 Georgia Avenue, Olney, MD 20832</u>
Year Built <u>1853-1857</u>

Description:

The Berry/Mackall House, constructed between 1853 and 1857, was previously surveyed by Sugarloaf Regional Trails in 1979. There have been no alterations to the house since the prior survey. The original smokehouse and circa 1950 barn remain on the property. The ruins of the second barn, constructed circa 1909, are no longer extant. A small wood-frame shed was constructed at the rear of the property and is obscured from view behind a stand of trees. The shed, constructed circa 1990, has an asphalt shingle front-gable roof, textured grooved plywood siding and is supported on concrete piers. The south elevation has a wood door and a 2-light window. The north and south elevations have vinyl 4/1 double-hung windows.

National Register Evaluation:

The Berry/Mackall House, constructed between 1853 and 1857, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as a representative example of a mid-nineteenth century vernacular farmhouse. The house illustrates a range of nineteenth and twentieth century historic building periods, while possessing an overall architectural cohesiveness and maintaining a high degree of integrity. The structure retains traditional building materials such as standing-seam metal roofs, wood siding, wood double-hung windows of various light configurations and wood porch elements. In addition, the property contains numerous outbuildings dating to different periods of the property's occupation, including an early smokehouse, circa 1890 carriage house, circa 1950 barn and circa 1990 shed. The house has historically occupied a prominent location along Norbeck-Olney Pike (now Georgia Avenue, MD97), and continues as a regional focal point. According to additional information included with the prior survey form, the only other nineteenth century building in this section of Georgia Avenue which remains intact and has similar architectural character as the Berry/Mackall House is the Higgins Tavern/Hotel (M:23-105). Currently, that building is vacant and severely deteriorated.

The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state, or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Finally, preliminary studies conducted for this project indicate the need for further assessment of the archaeological potential of this property. Therefore, no evaluation under Criterion D is being conducted at this time.

Property Address 17017 Georgia Avenue, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County
Owner Name/Address Mary F. Morris / 17017 Georgia Avenue, Olney, MD 20832
Year Built 1853-1857

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundaries of the Berry/Mackall House follow the current property lines of 17017 Georgia Avenue (Tax Map HT 561 and Parcel P638). This 1.3 hectare (3.26 acre) parcel is bounded on the north by circa 1935 single-family residences, on the east by forested land and on the south by open scape and the Sandy Spring Fire Company #40. The boundary includes the main house, carriage house, smokehouse, barn, shed and all land currently associated with the property. The house, carriage house, smokehouse and barn are contributing structure to the property, while the shed is a non-contributing structure.

MHT CONCURRENCE:

Eligibility ☐ recommended ☐ not recommended

Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

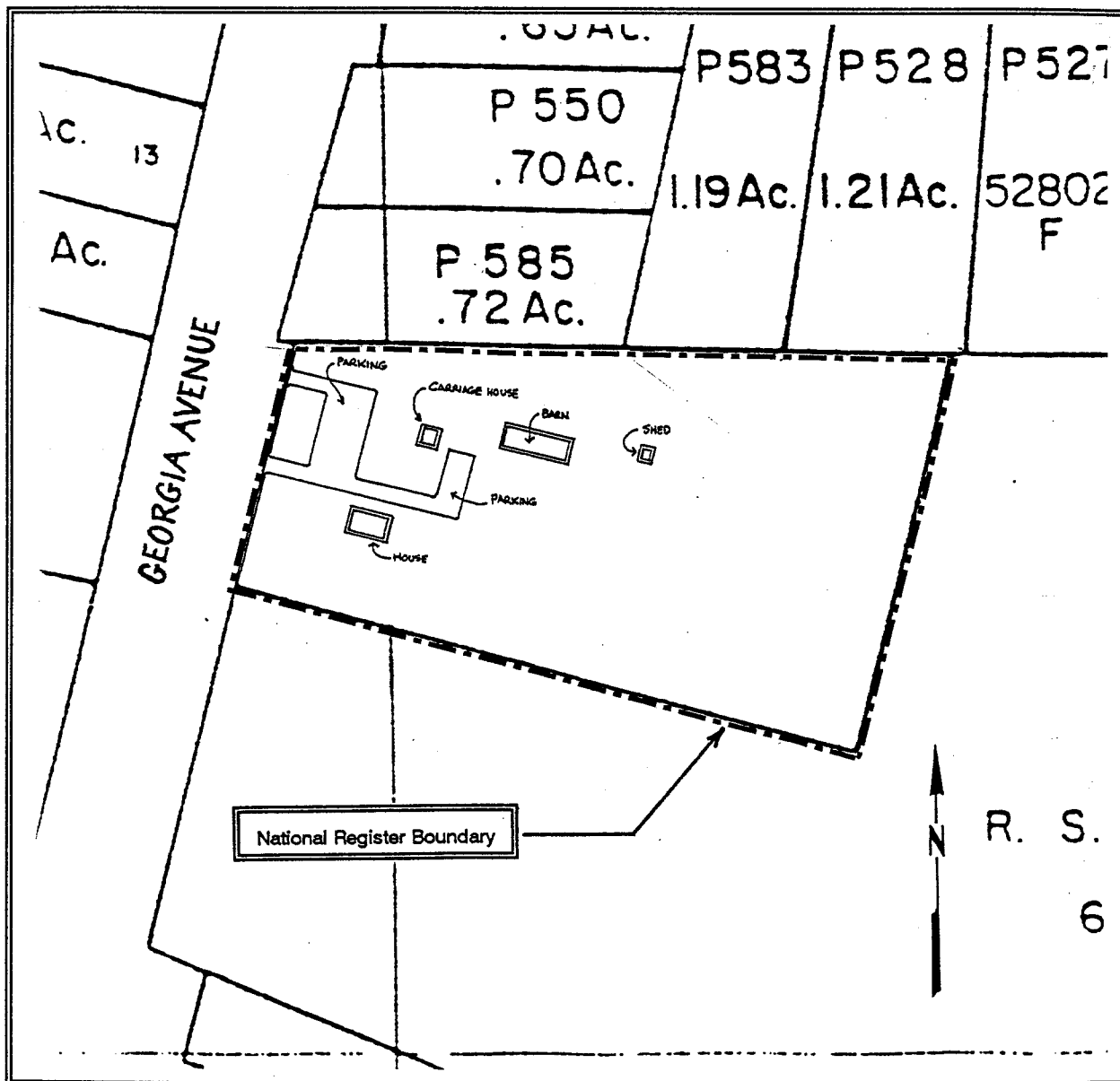
Comments: _____

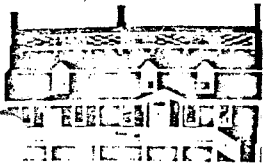
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

Reviewer, NR program Date

Property Address 17017 Georgia Avenue, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County
Owner Name/Address Mary F. Morris / 17017 Georgia Avenue, Olney, MD 20832
Year Built 1853-1857

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:





M:23-104

Maryland Historical Trust

November 4, 1981

Mr. William F. Schneider, Jr.
Chief, Bureau of Project Planning
State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

Re: MD 97 from MD 28/609 to MD 108: Berry Mackall House (M 23-104)
Contract No.: M 376-101-371

Dear Mr. Schneider:

Further research on the Berry-Mackall House (M 23-104) was done at the request of the National Register review staff to provide information on the architectural significance of the site. The Register staff referred to a group of approximately 150 late 19th century buildings in Montgomery County as a context suggested by Mark Walston of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. This group of sites was reviewed and found to number 55 structures. The Berry-Mackall House itself was examined in detail to verify the previous architectural information. The results of the additional research are attached, along with a revised site plan.

Yours truly,

Janet L. Davis

Janet L. Davis
Historic Sites Surveyor

JLD/mf

cc: Mr. George J. Andreve
Ms. Nancy Miller
Mr. Mark Walston /
Mr. Louis Ege
Ms. Rita Suffness

Attachment

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE (M 23-104)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

All architectural data on the Berry-Mackall House remains as stated except that the original section is of frame construction, not log as previously reported. The outbuildings of the site were also evaluated in more detail. A revised site plan is attached. The carriage house mentioned in the significance statement is a one story frame building with a gable roof and decorative gable woodwork. The small pointed attic windows have filigree screens. The building is on a stone foundation and has red painted clapboard siding. It appears to date from the 1880's or 1890's and has been remodeled for use as a residence.

The barn located immediately east of the carriage house is a two story concrete block and frame building dating from the 1950's. It is currently being used as a workshop and storage building. The older barn east of the 1950's structure was built about 1909, according to the present owner. It has recently collapsed and is being dismantled. The high stone foundation suggests that it was originally a bank barn.

Immediately east of the main house is a small square frame smokehouse with a gable roof. A foundation stone east of the smokehouse indicates another structure or an addition to the smokehouse once stood on this location. This building was demolished in the 1950's.

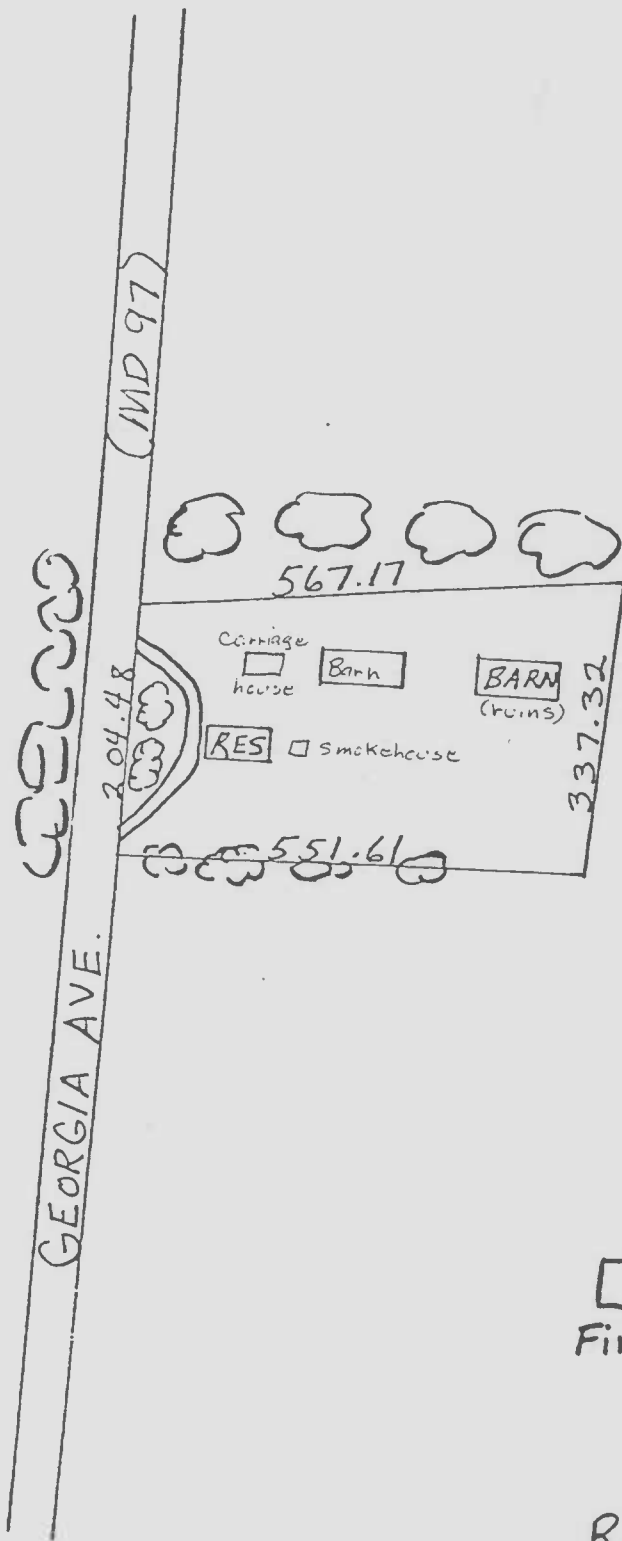
ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:


The Berry-Mackall House embodies the distinctive characteristics of vernacular architecture in that it is a composite structure, built in sections over several years, using commonly accepted techniques and finishes found in many extant houses of the same period in Montgomery County. Most of the 55 houses suggested as a context for the Berry-Mackall House have modern additions and exterior siding such as aluminum or asbestos shingles. One of the facts which distinguishes the Berry-Mackall House from others of the same type and period is its integrity of appearance. The late 19th century aspect of the house has not been compromised by unsympathetic additions or materials. The addition of a bay window on the north elevation in the 1950's is a feature often found in the late 19th century.

The siting of the Berry-Mackall House at the edge of the former turnpike is also an important factor in its historical integrity. The screen of trees at the edge of the present road serves to separate and define the edge of the property in much the same manner as they did in the 19th century. The house became a landmark along the well-traveled route, as noted by a neighbor in his diary during the Civil War: "On our way home, we met the Confederate pickets on the Pike at Mr. Berry's". (Excerpt from the Diary of Charles Abert, Sunday, June 28, 1863). The 1879 Hopkins Atlas map shows that houses were rather infrequent along the stretch between Norbeck and Olney, as compared to turnpikes in the eastern section of the county. Few of the houses in this section remain intact. The only 19th century building on the Norbeck-Olney turnpike which approaches the character of the Berry-Mackall House is the Higgins Tavern/Hotel (M23-105) about 1/4 mile south at 16812 Georgia Avenue. The immediate environment of the tavern is compromised by a modern restaurant and parking lot south of the historic building. By comparison, the Berry-Mackall House retains most of the trees which have bordered its site since the 19th century which visually separate it from the modern fire station on the south, the church on the west side of Georgia Avenue, and the modern residence north of the site.

Although similar examples of vernacular farmhouses of the same period as the Berry-Mackall House may be found in the list of 55 Montgomery County houses, the nature of this house and its site and its relationship to the old turnpike are unique in this section of the county.

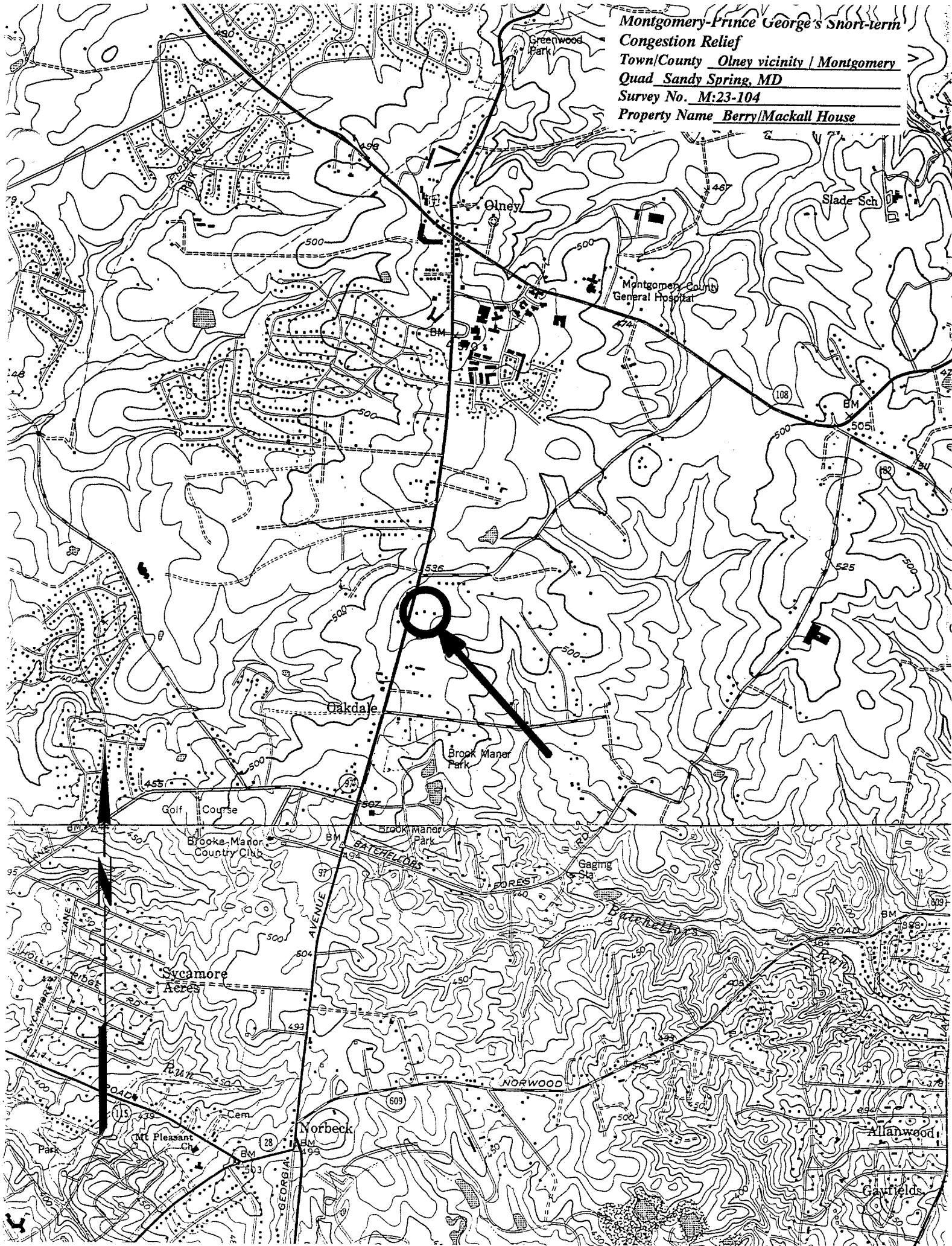

Church




Fire Station

REVISED
SKETCH SITE PLAN
BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE
M 23-104

Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term
Congestion Relief
Town/County Olney vicinity / Montgomery
Quad Sandy Spring, MD
Survey No. M:23-104
Property Name Berry/Mackall House





M 23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIN TAMBURKING

4-98

31-1271 400000

MARYLAND SHPO

FRONT ELEVATION

1/17



M-23-1011

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE

PONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBURRING

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHWEST CORNER

2/17



M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY Co., MD

TIM TAMBURRINO

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION

3/17



M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAM BURRING

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST CORNER

4/17



M-23-104

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE
MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBUKINO

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

REAR (EAST) ELEVATION

5/17



M-23-104

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TANBURRINO

4-98

004 0071 0000 000

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHEAST CORNER

6/17





M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBURRINO

4-98

STAGS 371 MON 4-23

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHWEST CORNER

8/17



M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBURRING

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

SMOKEHOUSE, VIEW FROM NORTH

9/17



M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBURRINO

4-98

SEARCHED: 10/17/17

MARYLAND SHPO

SMOKEHOUSE, VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST

10/17



M-23-104

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBUKINO

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

BRIE, VIEW FROM NORTH

11/17



M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

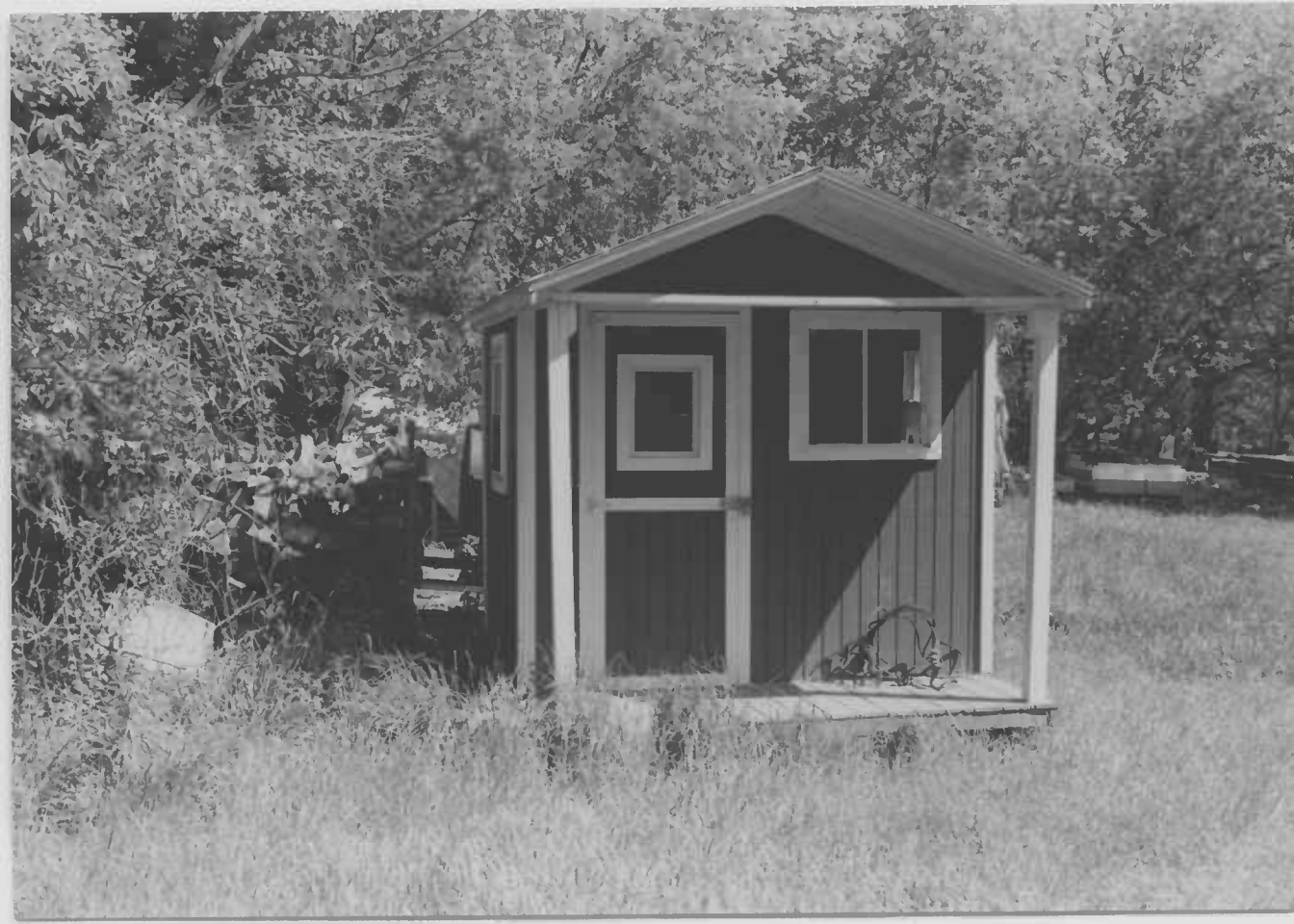
TIM TAMBURRINO

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

BARN, VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST

12/17



11-23-104

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAIBURRING

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

SHED, VIEW FROM NORTH

13 / 17



M-23-164

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TANBURKINO

4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

SHED, VIEW FROM SOUTH WEST

14 117



M-23-104

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TANBURNING
4-98

MARYLAND SHPO

CARRIAGE HOUSE, NORTHEAST CORNER
15/17



M-23-104

BERRY / MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMEURINO

4-98

RECEIVED

MARYLAND SUPD

CARRIAGE HOUSE, WEST ELEVATION

16 / 17



M-23-104

BERRY/MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

TIM TAMBURR MS

4-58 010 0071 410114-2

MARYLAND SHPO

CARRIAGE HOUSE, SOUTHWEST CORNER

17/17

Berry-Mackall House
M:23-104
Montgomery County, Maryland

The Berry-Mackall House is located on the east side of Georgia Avenue, south of Olney. The house, built in three distinct phases, was originally constructed 1852-1857 as a small, two-story frame structure. By 1875, a new, side-passage frame house was built in front of the original one, and, during the early 20th century, a two-story rear wing was appended to the dwelling. Further alterations to the house took place in the 1950s. The property also contains a carriage house, built 1859-1868, and designed in a Gothic Revival style, a log smokehouse from the original period of construction, and a 20th-century barn.

The Berry-Mackall House was a well-recognized, pre-Civil War-era landmark along the Washington-Brookeville Turnpike. The original dwelling was built by Elisha Berry, whose family were among the early settlers of Montgomery County. In 1868, the property was acquired by Robert McGill Mackall, a member of Mosby's Raiders, who made significant improvements to the property over the years. The Berry-Mackall House stands as a reminder to Montgomery County's pre-Civil War history, and provides a good illustration of the evolution of rural domestic building in the county. The Berry-Mackall House meets Criterion C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-23-104

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Berry-Mackall House

common/other name _____

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 17017 Georgia Ave. Not for publication _____
city or town _____ vicinity X state Maryland code MD
county Montgomery code _____ zip code 20833

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes _____ Name of Listing _____ No X

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Berry-Mackall House
Montgomery County, Maryland

Inventory No. M-23-104
Page 2

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6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling;
Carriage House; Smokehouse

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Gable: Standing Seam Metal
walls Frame: Weatherboard
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Berry-Mackall House
Montgomery County, Maryland

Inventory No. M-23-104
Page 4

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1852-1875

Significant Dates 1852-1857

1859-1868

1875

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder _____

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Farquhar, Roger Brooke, *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD.* Silver Spring, MD., 1952, 1962.

Hahn, Roberta, Candy Reed, Janet Davis, "Berry-Mackall House" (M:23-104), *The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory Form*, 1981.

Montgomery County Land Records, Montgomery County, Maryland.

Sandy Spring Museum, Vertical Files.

Maps and Drawings and Photographs

Hopkins, G.M., *Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland*, 1879.

Martenet and Bond, *Map of Montgomery County*, 1865.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 3.26 acres

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Berry-Mackall House is located on Parcel 638 on Montgomery County Tax Map HT 561.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Parcel 638 is part of a larger tract of land upon which the Berry-Mackall House was built during the mid-to late 19th century.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Kimberly Williams/Michele Naru, Architectural Historians
organization M-NCPPC date _____
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3403
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910

=====

12. Property Owner

=====

name Katherine Morris
street & number 17017 Georgia Avenue telephone _____
city or town Olney state MD zip code 20833

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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

The Berry-Mackall House is located on the east side of Georgia Avenue, just south of Olney. The house, built in three distinct phases, was originally constructed 1852-1857 as a small, two-story frame structure. By 1875, a new, side-passage frame house was built in front of the original house, and, during the first quarter of the 20th century, a two-story rear wing with a shed roof was further appended to the dwelling, giving the house its three-part appearance. Further alterations to the house took place in the 1950s. The property also contains a carriage house, built 1859-1868, and designed in a Gothic Revival style (currently a secondary residence), a smokehouse from the original period of construction, and a 20th-century barn.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Berry Mackall house consists of three parts: 1) an original two-story frame or log dwelling now sandwiched between later wings and serving as a living area and bedroom; 2) a two-story, side-passage frame structure, built in the late 19th century; and 3) a two-story, shed-roofed rear wing, added first quarter 20th century.

Original Section (Period 1):

The original section of the house, built 1852-1857, is a two-story frame dwelling that had a room-behind-room plan. It is set upon a stone foundation, with a crawl space under it, and is covered with gable roof, clad with standing seam metal and featuring a central brick chimney.

The north elevation of the house is the only exposed original exterior wall. It is clad with weatherboard siding and features 6/6 windows on the second story and a single 2/2 window on the first story. A projecting window bay was added to the first story of this elevation in the 1950s. The east, west, and south walls of this original structure are now interior walls, that have been furred out with drywall and skimcoated with plaster.

The interior of this original structure had a room-behind-room configuration now corresponding with the living room and kitchen area. There is no fireplace in the interior to correspond with the central chimney on the exterior. The second floor was not available for survey.

Main Block (Period 2):

The main block of the house, facing west to Georgia Avenue, is a two-story, three-bay frame, side-passage, single-pile dwelling,

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

built circa 1875. It is set upon a stone foundation and is covered with a gable roof, clad with standing seam metal and featuring a rebuilt brick end chimney. Clad with weatherboards, this main block is characterized by a wide, wrap-around porch addition. Set upon a concrete foundation, the porch is covered with a hipped roof, supported by heavy round wood posts, and is ornamented with delicate, scroll-sawn knee brackets and spindle work. The porch railing, spanning each of the wood columns, has square newels, spaced closely together.

The west elevation is divided into three bays, with the entry located in the south end bay. The windows are all 6/6 with narrow, square-edged casings with interior beading and wood shutters. The door is a four-paneled wood door with a two-light transom.

The south elevation of this main block has single, 6/6 windows in the front bay on both the first and second stories and a six-light casement window in the attic level. The north elevation has an exterior end chimney of brick laid in an irregular five-to seven-course bond and a single 6/6 window in the rear bay of the second story.

The east elevation of the main block of the house abuts the original section of the house. A cellar under this main block is accessible via a bulkhead door at the northeast corner of the house. The cellar features dirt floors and reveals the solid stone foundation walls under the main block.

20th century additions (Period 3):

A two-story frame wing at the rear of the dwelling, probably built during the first quarter of this century, sandwiched the original structure between it and the Period 2 dwelling. This rear wing is set upon a concrete foundation, has weatherboard walls and is covered with a sloping roof, clad with standing seam metal. This rear wing is three bays wide with a central entry and 6/6 windows. A diamond-shaped window is located on center of the first story of the north elevation of this addition; all other windows are 6/6.

In addition to this rear wing, there is a two-story frame addition projecting from the south side of the original building on the site. This frame addition with weatherboard walls is set upon a concrete foundation and is covered with a sloping roof. Probably built in the first quarter of the 20th century, it likely dates to the same phase of construction as the rear wing.

Interior:

The interior of the Berry-Mackall House consists of six principal

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

rooms, all dating to the various phases of construction that included a room-behind-room dwelling, a side-passage, single-pile dwelling addition, and a rear wing.

The principal entrance to the house is through the side-passage door of the Period 2 house. This door leads directly into a narrow stair hall featuring a straight-flight stair with its original heavy, turned newel, typical of the late 19th century, and turned balusters. The side hall opens into the Period 2 front parlor with a fireplace located on center of the north wall. A late Victorian, or Edwardian wood mantel with a mirrored overmantel extends almost to the ceiling, dominating this wall surface. An opening against the east wall of this room leads into the front room of the Period 1 house. The original north exterior wall of this room has been removed, and the room enlarged by the addition of a projecting bay window, made during the 1950s (Period 4). A door on the south wall of the room leads into a Period 3 bedroom addition, while an opening on the east wall provides access to the rear room of the Period 1 house.

Like the front room, this rear room of the Period 1 house, part of the present kitchen retains little vestiges of its original period of construction, save for a winder stair located in the northeast corner leading to the second floor. A kitchen and bath wing, part of the Period 3 phase of construction, opens off of the south end of this Period 1 room.

A mud room/pantry also part of the Phase 3 period of construction extends across the entire east end of the dwelling. This room features a diamond-shaped window in one end wall.

AGRICULTURAL AND OUTBUILDINGS:

In addition to the primary residence, the Berry-Mackall property contains a carriage house, converted into a private residence, a smokehouse, and a concrete block barn.

The Carriage House:

Designed in a Gothic Revival style and built between 1859 and 1868, the former carriage house is a 1-1/2-story frame structure with a cross gable roof. The building is set upon a stone foundation and features partially intact bargeboard detailing in its gable ends. Although the building retains its original overall form and feeling, it has suffered some insensitive additions and alterations as part of its conversion into a residence including, vinyl siding, all new 6/6 and 4/4 windows, and a shed-roof porch addition along the north side of the carriage house.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 4

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

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Smokehouse: The smokehouse, built between 1852-1857 along with the original house, is located immediately behind the main house to the east. It is a log structure measuring 12' x 10' with a steep gable roof. Its log walls are clad with vertical boards, over which is placed horizontal weatherboard siding. On the interior, the log smokehouse has concrete block walls furred out from the original log walls and stabilizing the structure, and exposed log rafters with collar ties nailed to the rafters. The rafters are nailed together at the ridge.

Barn: The barn is a large 38' x 16' structure built of concrete block on the first story and plywood on the second story. It is covered with a gable roof, clad with standing seam metal and features a box wood cornice. The barn was built during the 1950s and is non-contributing.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Berry-Mackall House, originally built between 1852 and 1857 was a well-recognized, pre-Civil War landmark along the Washington-Brookeville Turnpike. The original dwelling was built by Elisha Berry, whose family were among the early settlers of Montgomery County. In 1868, the property was acquired by Robert McGill Mackall, a member of Mosby's Raiders during the Civil War, who significantly improved the property by adding the two-story frame building to the front of the original structure, and by constructing the still-extant carriage house on the site. The Berry-Mackall House meets Criterion C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties as a good illustration of the evolution of the rural domestic building in Montgomery County.

Historic Context

The property on which the Berry-Mackall House stands was originally part of a large tract of land purchased by Richard Berry in the late 18th century. Berry consolidated two large parcels including a 67-acre parcel of land that was part of a property known as "Pig Park," and a 282-acre of "Shepherd's Hard Fortune." Over the years, Berry added more land to his holdings, and by 1807 had accumulated 989 acres. At his death in 1819, he left "Pig Park," "wherein Hazel Butt now lives" to his daughter Deborah D. Berry (Burgess); his son Elisha was to get "Shepherd's Hard Fortune" and part of "Charles and Benjamin."

An equity case charging Elisha Berry with mis-administration of the will, resulted in the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown assuming ownership of the property. Eventually, Deborah was able to purchase 250 acres of the property back from the bank. When she died in 1852, her property, totally 364 acres, was divided between her four nephews, the children of Elisha Berry.¹

The land on which Deborah Burgess resided went to one nephew, William Richard Berry, while the 91-acre tract of land on which the Berry-Mackall House stands, went to another nephew, Elisha Berry.² It is commonly believed that Elisha Berry built the two-story frame house facing the turnpike from Washington to Brookeville (now

¹ Register of Wills, op. Cit., WT of R 2/104 (July 19, 1853). As quoted in Roberta Hahn, Candy Reed, and Janet Davis, "Berry-Mackall House," Maryland Historic Sites Inventory Form (M:23-104), 1981.

² Ibid, and Montgomery County Land Records, JGH 7/94.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

Georgia Avenue) between 1852 and 1857.³ The house definitely stood by 1859 when Elisha Berry placed fire insurance on the property through the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County. The policy described the house on the property as "a dwelling house of frame, two stories, 15 x 24 feet, 5 rooms, ceiled (?) and plastered, stoves used and pipes properly secured."⁴ It further describes a meat house, 10 x 12 feet, "well-built of log, and laid in with mortar." The house, valued at \$700, was insured for \$500, while the meathouse and its contents were insured for \$40 and \$90 respectively.

Berry increased his holdings with additional land tracts purchased from his brothers until 1868 when he sold the house and 114-3/4 acres to Robert M. Mackall and Robert T. McGill. At the time of its sale, the property sold for a total of \$11,253.00. This price--a significant amount of money for the number of acres and a modest house--indicates that the property was further improved by then.

An 1870 fire insurance policy on the property, applied for by Robert Mackell, identifies several additional buildings on the property, including a kitchen, stable, hay house, granary and carriage house, and hay and grain in the hay house. By 1875, Mackall increased his policy to cover "dwelling added to back building." This policy indicates that the two-story, side-passage frame house built in front of the smaller frame house on the site was built around 1875.

Robert M. Mackall, who lived in the house for 28 years, is noted for having been a member of Mosby's Rangers during the Civil War. Mackall was born February 5, 1844 in Georgetown and died June 21, 1934 in Culpeper, Virginia. At the start of the Civil War, Mackall joined the Beauregard Rifles, an independent Confederate Army company formed in Alexandria, Virginia. When the company disbanded in the fall of 1861, Mackall enlisted in the Pelham Battery, a part of J.E.B. Stuart's division. In the Fall of 1863, he joined the cavalry unit of Colonel John S. Mosby, which became known as Mosby's Raiders. This company was famous for lightening raids into Maryland and on Union positions in Virginia, causing havoc in morale and temporary losses of supplies. Squads of Mosby's Raiders made several forays into Montgomery County, including the general store at Sandy Spring, a few miles east of the Berry House.

The house, which was a landmark along the well-traveled Washington-Brookeville Turnpike, is referred to in the diary of Charles Abert,

³ Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records, 1857.

⁴ Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County, Policy # 2627.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

who noted, "On our way home, we met the Confederate pickets on the Pike at Mr. Berry's."⁵

At the end of the War, Mosby's Raiders were declared outlaws by the Federal government and sentenced to death. However, all members were paroled one month after the surrender of the Confederate Army. Mackall returned to Georgetown and in 1867 married Alice Ashby of Baltimore. In 1868, having purchased the Berry-Mackall House, Mackall moved to the house with his wife (Mackall's brother Richard who had recently settled nearby in Mt. Zion, probably influenced Mackall's decision to move here). Mackall lived at the Berry-Mackall farm for 28 years, supporting himself as a farmer and merchant. During this period, Mackall built the carriage house, (now a secondary residence), and made several additions to the house, including the two-story, side-passage frame section, that stands as the main block of the three-part house.

In 1896, Mackall sold the farm to the trustees for George E. Cooke and moved to Culpeper, Virginia, where he died in 1934, one of the few remaining members of Mosby's Raiders at that time.⁶

In 1921, the property was purchased by Ward Savage, and then in 1943, came under the ownership of Mr. and Mrs. David G. Morris. Mrs. Morris continues to occupy the dwelling today.

⁵ Excerpt from the Diary of Charles Abert, Sunday, June 28, 1863.

⁶ From, *The Mackall Family of Calvert County, Maryland*, (1960) as quoted in Roberta Hahn, Candy Reed, and Janet Davis, 1981.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s): Agricultural-Industrial
Transition

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s): Agriculture

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Standing Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s): Single Dwelling

Known Design Source:

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-104

Berry-Mackall House

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

Chain of Title:

November 20, 1778	Thomas Owen to Richard Berry. Part of the land tract "Pig's Park." 67 acres. (Deed Book A Liber 207)
c.1790	Richard Berry purchased the land tract "Shepherd's Hard Fortune."
1819	Richard Berry died.
1819	Richard Berry estate left to Deborah D. Berry, daughter, and Elisha Berry, son. Deborah--"Pig Park" Elisha--"Shepherd's Hard Fortune", and part of "Charles and Benjamin"
January 23, 1861	John D. Berry to Elisha Berry. 28.75 acres. Conveying part of the Property where Deborah Berry Burgess lived. (Deed Book JGH 8 Folio 302)

BERRY - MACKALL HOUSE (M: 23-104)



Visual User Application

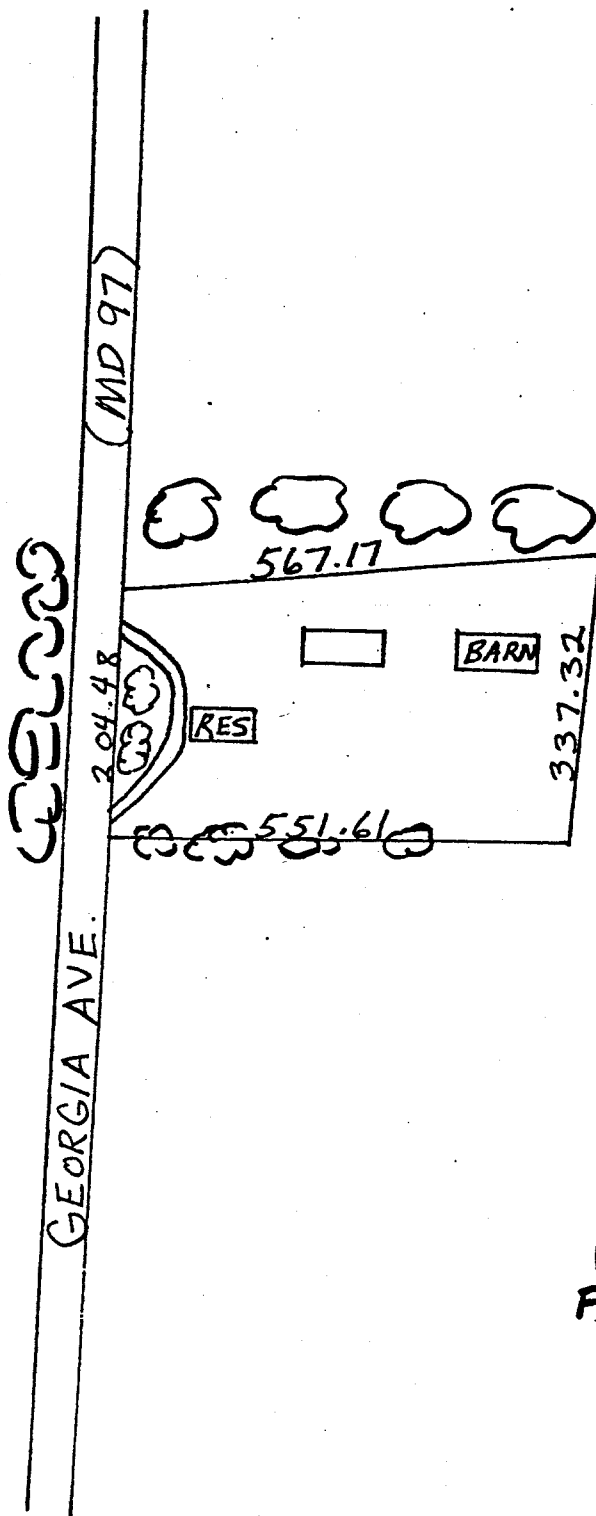
M-NCPPC
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760


N
Scale 1" = 200'

Research GIS
Technology
Research & Technology Center




Church




Fire Station

SKETCH SITE PLAN
BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE
M 23-104

MECHANICSVILLE DIST.

No 8.

Mont. Co.

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile

MECHANICSVILLE OLNEY P.O.

Scale 600 Feet to the Inch

BUSINESS NOTICES

J. D. Barnsley, Williams & Boyer,
Dealers in all kinds of
Merchandise,
Mechanicsville, Mont. Co.
Joseph L. Warner,
Manufacturer and Dealer
in Hardware, Building
Materials, etc.,
Mechanicsville.

BUSINESS NOTICES

BRIGHTON.

Isaac Hartshorn,
Agent for The Iron Method Lumber
Co., of Philadelphia
(Incorporated 1881) Agents for the
Districts of Columbia, Maryland,
Virginia, etc.
E. Pierce & Co.,
Dealers in Hardware, Building
Materials, etc.,
Brighton.
Henry Stabler,
Dealer in Groceries, Provision
Fruit, etc., etc.

MT. ZION.

A. A. Snowden,
Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries,
Fruit, etc., etc.
Thos. Brown,
Dealer in Groceries, Provision
Fruit, etc., etc.

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1879, by G. M. Hopkins, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington D.C.

Hopkins, G.M., comp. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of
Montgomery, Maryland, 1879. Reprint. Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

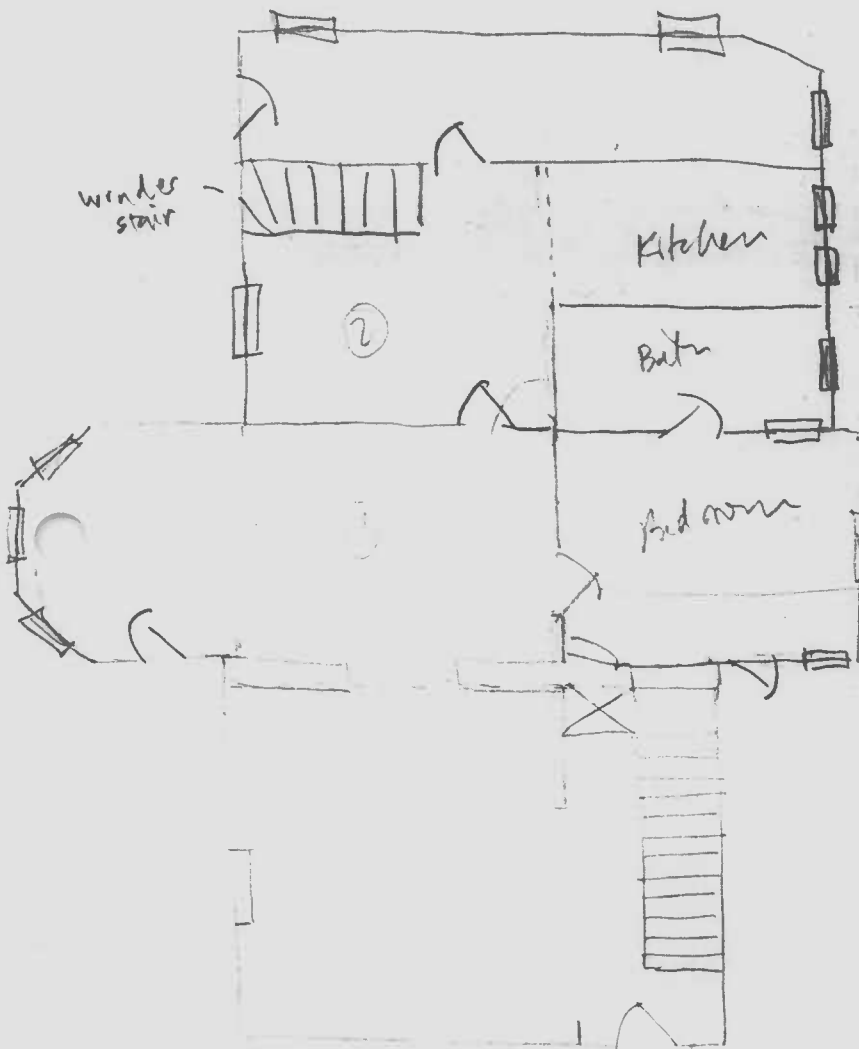
M:23-104

BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE

M. 23-104

- ① original log structure
- ② room behind -
room

Bay window & porch
- last phase of
construction



6 paneled door
orig. ext. entrance



SCALE 1:24000

Name: SANDY SPRING
 Date: 7/13/99
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 08' 54.7" N 077° 03' 56.4" W
 Caption: BERRY - MACKALL HOUSE (M: 23-104)
 17017 Georgia Av.



23-104

BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

10-5-99

MARTLAND SHPO

SOUTHEAST OBLIQUE OF MAIN HOUSE

1 OF 5



M?
23-104

BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

10-5-00

MARYLAND SHPO

WEST ELEVATION

2 OF 5



23-104

BERRY-MACKAU HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

10-5-09

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION ; NW OBLIQUE

3 of 5



M.

23-104

BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD.

KIM WILLIAMS

10-5-09

MARYLAND SHPO

OUTBUILDING, LOCATED NORTH OF MAIN HOUSE

40F5



66.5.01

23-104

BERRY-MACKALL HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

10-5-99

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF NEWEL

5 OF 5

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M: 23-104
(date entered 5-12-80)

1. Name: Berry/Mackall House
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 23/104 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 16
Coordinate G-3
4. Address: 17017 Georgia Avenue
Olney, Md.
5. Classification Summary
- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Category | <u>building</u> | Previous Survey Recording | <u>MNCPPC</u> |
| Ownership | <u>private</u> | Title and Date: | <u>Historic Sites Inventory</u> |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u> | | <u>1976</u> |
| Status | <u>occupied</u> | | |
| Accessible | <u>no</u> | Federal | <u>State</u> <u>x</u> <u>County</u> <u>x</u> <u>Local</u> |
| Present use | <u>private residence</u> | | |
6. Date: 1853-1857 7. Original Owner: Elisha Berry
8. Apparent Condition
- a. good b. altered c. original site
9. Description: This four bay by four bay, two and a half story house faces northwest on Georgia Avenue. The original log house faced northeast and was one and a half stories high; it was built about 1846. The northwest section was built about 1893 and faces northwest. The house has white clapboarding. There is a porch on the northwest elevation that wraps around to the southwest and northeast elevations. It has a shed roof supported by seven wooden columns. The house has six-over-six double-hung windows flanked by green wooden louvered shutters. The gable roof has red raised seam metal covering.
10. Significance: This charming mid-19th century farm house stands on land owned by the Berry family from the late 1700s until 1868. Richard Berry left 989 acres to his children in 1807. Deborah D. Berry (Burgess) and Elisha. Elisha's son and namesake is believed to have built the house between 1853 and 1857. He increased his holdings until 1868 when he sold the house and 115 acres to Robert M. Mackall and Robert T. McGill. Mackall, a farmer and merchant remained in the Berry House for 30 years. After several intermediary owners the Berry-Mackall house was purchased by D.G. and Katherine Morris in 1943. Mrs. Morris still lives there.
11. Researcher and date researched: Candy Reed - Arch. Description
Roberta Hahn August 1979
12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock 13. Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation
Approval
15. Acreage: 3.41 acres

Nov. 2, 1981 survey of Berry-Mackall
House for additional Determination of
Eligibility info revealed no log structure

Janet Davis
MHT/SHA Surveyor

M:23-104

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Berry-Mackall House

AND/OR COMMON

Morris House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

17017 Georgia Ave. (MD 97)

CITY, TOWN

Olney

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Montgomery**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Katherine Morris

Telephone #: 774-4981

STREET & NUMBER

17017 Georgia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Olney

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
MD 20832**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Court House

Liber #: 923

Folio #: 1

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE
MD 20850**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE
MD 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M:23-104

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Berry-Mackall House is a 2½ story frame house of the mid to late 19th century located on the east side of Georgia Avenue (MD 97) about ½ mile south of the center of Olney.

The four bay by four bay house was built on fieldstone foundations in sections. The original log house faced northeast and was one and a half stories high. The frame house faces northwest and is 2½ stories high in an L-shape. The exterior is white clapboards.

The northwest (front) porch wraps around to both the northeast and southwest elevations. It has a shed roof with red raised seam metal covering supported by seven wooden columns. There are two doors which face northwest, both wood paneled. The northwest section door is surmounted by a two-light transom. On the south east elevation there is an enclosed gable porch which is attached to a two story lean-to shed.

There are 6/6 double hung windows in this house, flanked by green wooden louvred shutters. The southeast lean-to has 2/2 double hung windows. There are one story bay windows on the northeast and southwest elevations.

The house has intersecting gable and shed roofs with red raised seam metal covering. The northwest section has a boxed and returned cornice line. There is an exterior chimney at the northeast end of the southwest section and an interior chimney above the log section.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

M:23-104

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
100-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Local history

SPECIFIC DATES

1853-57

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Elisha Berry

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Berry-Mackall House is an excellent example of a mid 19th century vernacular farmhouse which developed from a small log house to a substantial residence during the last quarter of the 19th century. The house was built by Elisha Berry, whose family were among the early settlers of Montgomery County, and was later acquired by Robert McGill Mackall, a former member of Mosby's Raiders during the Civil War. The general appearance of the house dates from the period of Mackall's ownership.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

The house stands on land which came into the Berry family in the late 1700's when Richard Berry purchased 67 acres known as "Pig Park",¹ and 282 acres known as "Shepherd's Hard Fortune"² from Thomas Owen. Over the years Berry added more land to his holdings until he had a total of 989 acres in 1807.³ At his death in 1819, he left "Pig Park", "wherein Hazel Butt now lives" to his daughter Deborah D. Berry (Burgess); his son Elisha⁴ was to get "Shepherd's Hard Fortune" and part of "Charles and Benjamin".⁴ Because of an equity suit charging Elisha Berry with mis-administration of the will, Elisha's property came into the hands of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown.⁵ Eventually Deborah purchased 250 acres of the property from the bank.⁶ When she died in 1852, her property, totalling 364⁷ acres, was divided between her four nephews, the children of Elisha Berry.

The house Mrs. Burgess lived in went to one nephew, William Richard Berry,⁸ and the 91 acres of land on which the present house stands went to another nephew, Elisha⁹ Berry. Elisha is believed to have built the house between 1853 and 1857.⁹ Berry located his house near the new turnpike from Washington to Brookville (now Georgia Avenue), built in 1849 by the Union Turnpike Company.¹⁰ He increased his holdings with additional plots purchased from his brothers until 1868 when he sold the house and 114-3/4 acres to Robert M. Mackall and Robert T. McGill for \$11,253.¹² Other members of the Berry family retained lands adjoining the Elisha Berry farm, as evidenced by the 1879 Hopkins Atlas Map, which shows the John D. Berry house (currently called Wickfield Farm, M 23-103) nearby. The present owner of the Berry-Mackall House says the carriage house on her property once served both Berry houses.

Continued on separate sheet

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

ITEM 8: SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Robert McGill Mackall was born February 5, 1844 in Georgetown and died June 21, 1934 in Culpeper, Virginia. When the Civil War began in 1861, Mackall joined the Beauregard Rifles, an independent Confederate Army company forming in Alexandria, Va. The company disbanded in the Fall of 1861 and Mackall enlisted in the Pelham Battery, a part of J.E.B. Stuart's division. In the Fall of 1863, he joined the cavalry unit of Col. John S. Mosby, which became known as Mosby's Raiders. This company was famous for lightning raids into Maryland and on Union positions in Virginia, causing havoc in morale and temporary losses of supplies. Squads of Mosby's Raiders made several forays into Montgomery County, including one on the general store at Sandy Spring, a few miles east of the Berry house. The unit fought in most of the important battles in Maryland and Virginia and at Gettysburg.

At the end of the War, Mosby's Raiders were declared outlaws by the Federal Government and sentenced to death. However, all members were paroled one month after the surrender of the Confederate Army. Mackall returned to Georgetown and in 1867 married Alice Ashby of Baltimore. Mackall's brother Richard had recently settled near Mt. Zion in Montgomery County and was probably instrumental in Robert Mackall's decision to buy the Berry farm.¹³

Mackall lived in the house for 28 years, supporting himself as a farmer and merchant. During this period, Mackall made several alterations to the house, re-orienting the main section toward the turnpike, which was extended in 1870 to join the road from Ashton and Sunshine to Westminster.¹⁴ In 1896, he sold the farm to the trustees for George E. Cooke and moved to Culpeper, Va., where he died in 1934,¹⁵ one of the few remaining members of Mosby's Raiders at that time.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Land Records of Montgomery Co., Md., A/207 (Dec. 15, 1778)
2. Ibid., B/74 (Nov. 16, 1782)
3. Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records, 1807.
4. Montgomery County Register of Wills, (Nov. 30, 1819)
5. Land Records, op. cit. Y/188-91 (Nov. 19, 1839)
6. Ibid., BS 9/603 (Nov. 19, 1839)
7. Register of Wills, op. cit., WT of R 2/104 (Jul. 19, 1853)
8. Ibid.
9. Assessment Records, op. cit. 1857.
10. Greater Olney Directory, Longwood Commemorative Ed., 1978, p. 10.
11. Land Records, op. cit., JGH 7/94 (Sept. 23, 1858), JGH 8/302 (Jan. 23, 1861)
12. Ibid., EBP 6/199 (Nov 18, 1868) The identity of Robert T. McGill is unknown.
13. Richard Mackall's son, R. McGill Mackall, became a prominent muralist in Baltimore in the early to mid-20th century. He executed the murals in the War Memorial (1925) and in several churches and other buildings in Baltimore.
14. Greater Olney Directory, p. 10.
15. The Mackall Family of Calvert County Maryland, 1960.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Greater Olney Directory, Longwood Commemorative Edition, Greater Olney Civic Association, 1978.

Land Records of Montgomery County

Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records

Montgomery County Register of Wills

The Mackall Family of Calvert County, Maryland, K.W. Mackall, 1960; rev. 1970.
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 41.416

co-terminous with tax parcel

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is co-terminous with the tax parcel and includes a row of large trees along the street side which appear to be of the same date as the main section of the house. The set-back between the house and the road is similar to that of the Higgins Tavern (M 23-105) at 16812 Georgia Ave., an early 19th century tavern and hotel on the old turnpike route.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Roberta Hahn/Candy Reed/Janet Davis

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails/Md. Historical Trust

DATE

July 10, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

MD 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 23/104

Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Berry/Mackall House

AND/OR COMMON

Morris House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

17017 Georgia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Olney

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Katherine Morris

Telephone #: 774-4981

STREET & NUMBER

17017 Georgia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Olney

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20832

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 923

Folio #: 1

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M:23-104

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This four bay by four bay, two and a half story house faces northwest on Georgia Avenue.

The house was built on fieldstone foundations in sections. The original log house faced northeast and was one and a half stories high. The frame house (built about 1893) faces northwest and is two and a half stories high and is L-shaped. The house has white clapboarding.

The northwest (front) porch wraps around to both the northeast and southwest elevations. It has a shed roof with red raised seam metal covering supported by seven wooden columns. There are two doors which face northwest, both are wooden paneled. The northwest section door is surmounted by a two light transom. On the southeast elevation there is an enclosed gable porch which is attached to a two story lean-to shed.

There are six over six double hung windows in this house flanked by green wooden louvered shutters. The southeast lean-to has two over two double hung windows. There is one story bay window on the northeast and southwest elevations.

The house has intersecting gable and shed roofs with red raised seam metal covering. The northwest section has a boxed and returned cornice line. There is an exterior chimney at the northeast end of the southwest section, and there is an interior chimney above the log section.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1853-1857

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Elisha Berry

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house stands on land which came into the Berry Family in the late 1700's when Richard Berry purchased 67 acres known as "Pig Park",¹ and 282 acres known as "Shepherd's Hard Fortune"² from Thomas Owen. Over the years Berry added more land to his holdings until he had a total of 989 acres in 1807.³ At his death in 1819 he left "Pig Park", "wherein Hazel Butt now lives" to his daughter Deborah D. Berry (Burgess); his son Elisha was to get "Shepherd's Hard Fortune" and part of "Charles and Benjamin."⁴ Because of an equity suit charging Elisha Berry with mis-administration of the will, Elisha's property came into the hands of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown.⁵ Eventually Deborah purchased 250 acres of the property from the bank.⁶ When she died in 1852, her property, totalling 364 acres, was divided between her four nephews, children of Elisha Berry.⁷

The house Mrs. Burgess had lived in went to one nephew, William Richard Berry,⁸ and the 91 acres of land on which the present house stands went to another nephew, Elisha Berry. Elisha is believed to have built the house between 1853 and 1857.⁹ He increased his holdings with additional plots purchased from his brothers¹⁰ until 1868 when he sold the house and 114 3/4 acres to Robert M. Mackall and Robert T. McGill for \$11,253.¹¹

Mackall, who had been a member of Mosby's Confederate Raiders during the Civil War, was a farmer and merchant. He remained in the Berry house nearly 30 years, selling to trustees for George E. Cook in 1896.¹² After several intermediary owners, the Berry-Mackall house was purchased by D.G. and Katherine Morris in 1943. Mrs. Morris stills lives in the unusual, small narrow two story clapboard house. A frame barn, possibly dating to 1900, is also on the property.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., A/207, (December 15, 1778)
2. Ibid., B/74, (November 16, 1782).
3. Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records, 1807.
4. Montgomery County Register of Wills, (November 30, 1819).
5. Land Records, op. cit., Y/188-91, (November 19, 1839).
6. Ibid., BS 9/603, (November 19, 1839).
7. Register of Wills, op. cit., WT of R 2/104, (July 19, 1853).
8. Ibid.
9. Assessment Records, op. cit., 1857.
10. Land Records, op. cit., JGH 7/94, (September 23, 1858); JGH 8/302, (January 23, 1861).
11. Ibid., EBP 6/199, (November 18, 1868).
12. Ibid., JA 53/367, (June 1, 1896).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.
 Montgomery County Tax Assessment Records.
 Montgomery County Register of Wills.
 U.S. Census Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.41 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Roberta Hahn

Candy Reed

Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

August 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M#23-104

160609540

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Robert Mackall House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

17017 Georgia Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Olney

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Katherine Morris

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

17017 Georgia Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Olney

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:23-104

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

CONDITION

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is an unusual, small farmhouse. The main section is a narrow, two-story, three-bay section that faces west. The door is in the south-end bay and has a transom-light. A heavy-roofed, one-story, pavillion-type porch overshadows the north and west (front) sides of the house. There is a newer brick chimney on the external north end. Siding is clapboard, and the windows are 6/6 on the upper level, and are tall, 2/2 sash on the ground floor. A lower, two-bay, frame wing extends from the NE corner of the main house. This has a central chimney. There are later additions on this end. A ca. 1900 frame barn sits east of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mackall was a member of Mosby's (Confederate) Raiders during the Civil War. He was a merchant in Olney after the war.

M:23-104

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

6/10/75

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

N:23-104

G.M. Hopkins, Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including
Montgomery Co. MD. 1879

MECHANICSVILLE DIST.

No. 8.

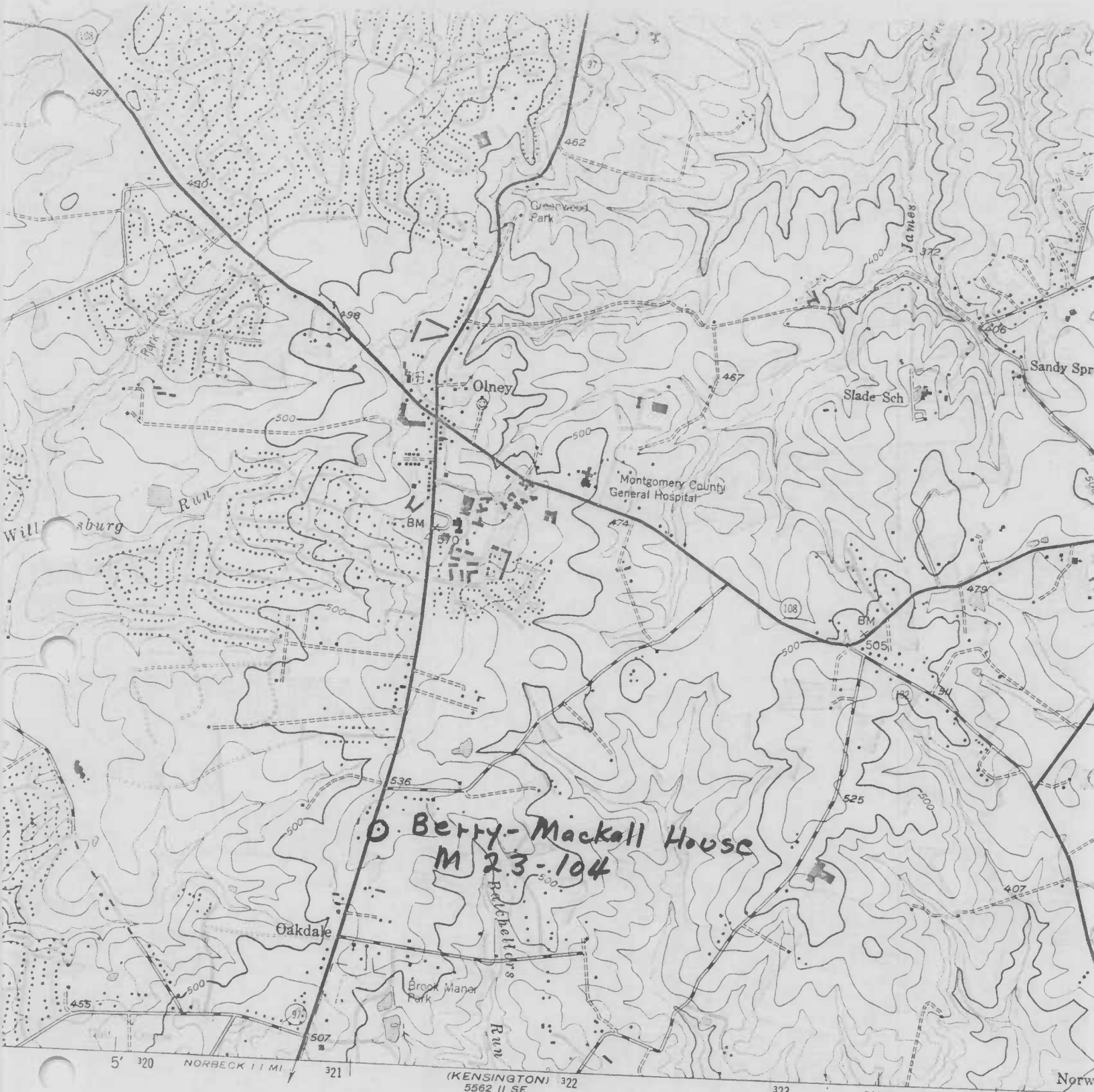
Mont. Co.

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile



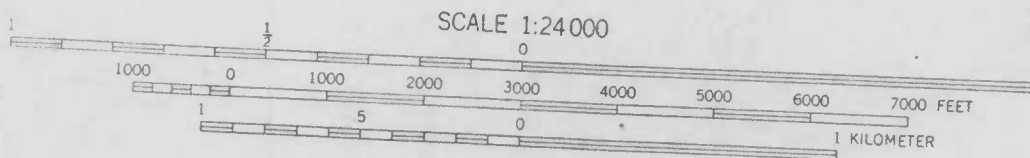
MECHANICSVILLE
EXP.O.

NOTICES



O. Berry-Mackall House
M 23-104

SANDY SPRING
Quad



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



NAME ROBERT MACKALL HOUSE (MORRIS NOW) #23-104

LOCATION RTE. 97, OLNEY, MD.

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 6/10/75

M. RUYER